## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (Case No. 01-1545)

| In the | e Application of:                            | )           |                     |
|--------|--|-------------|---------------------|
|        | Johan Oosthuizen, et al.                     | )           |                     |
| Serial | No.: U.S. Nat'l Phase of PCT/ZA00/00057      | )           | Examiner: TBA       |
| Filing | g Date: March 24, 2000                       | )           | Group Art Unit: TBA |
| For:   | Pulp Mouldiing Process and Related<br>System | )<br>)<br>) |                     |

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please consider the following amendments and remarks before examination on the merits.

## **AMENDMENTS**

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-19.

Please add the following new claims:

20. (New) A pulp moulding process including the steps of preparing pulp stock; forming pulp products by means of a forming die; and delivering the pulp products to a downline facility, the process being characterized in that wet pulp products are transferred from the forming die by means of a first die element of a heated transferring die-and-heated pressing tool arrangement, comprising a first die element and a second die element, having a mould cavity therebetween, simultaneously pressed and dried in the